

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Matthias SLODOWSKI  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THIN-LAYER METROLOGY  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 02/13/2004  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The relevance of the foreign-language document is described in the present specification. An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is provided herewith.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 13, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428  
Telephone: (202) 672-5426  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
Glenn Law  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 34,371

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|  |   |    |   |                          |                    |
|--|---|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO<br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>Date Submitted: February 13, 2004<br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                    |
|  |   |    |   | Application Number       | Unassigned         |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date              | 02/13/2004         |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Matthias SLODOWSKI |
|  |   |    |   | Group Art Unit           | Unassigned         |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Unassigned         |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 016790-0489        |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                      |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |   | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind<br>Code <sup>2</sup> (if<br>known) |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |                      |   |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |                      |   |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |                      |   |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |                      |   |  |  |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns,<br>Lines, Where<br>Relevant<br>Passages or<br>Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |  |                |
|                          | A1                       | DE                      | 100 53 232          | A1                                   | LEICA MICROSYSTEMS<br>JENA GMBH                     | 05-16-2002   |  | Abstract       |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|                          |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                                 |                          |  |                |
|                                 |                          |  |                |
|                                 |                          |  |                |
|                                 |                          |  |                |
|                                 |                          |  |                |

|                       |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.